

Office of Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 17,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Washington State has 853 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 10.8 deaths per 100,000 people, a crisis that costs the state \$11.9 billion each year, of which \$171.7 million is paid by tax payers. Washington state has the 40th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 2, 2023 to recognize the 26th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and the loved ones of those victims; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as we see an increase in firearm homicides, and nonfatal shootings across the country, increased calls to domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence; and

WHEREAS, mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

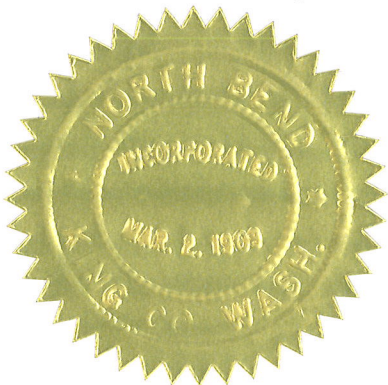
WHEREAS, cities across the Nation, including North Bend are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our community safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rob McFarland, Mayor, do hereby proclaim Friday June 2, 2023 as

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

in the City of North Bend and encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.



Signed this 2nd day of June, 2023

Rob McFarland
Mayor